

Colorado Parks and Wildlife



FY22 GAME DAMAGE ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared for the Colorado General Assembly pursuant to C.R.S. 33-3-111

*Prepared by
Beverly Herdt CPW
Luke Hoffman CPW*

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GAME DAMAGE PROGRAM

Section A: Game Damage Compensation

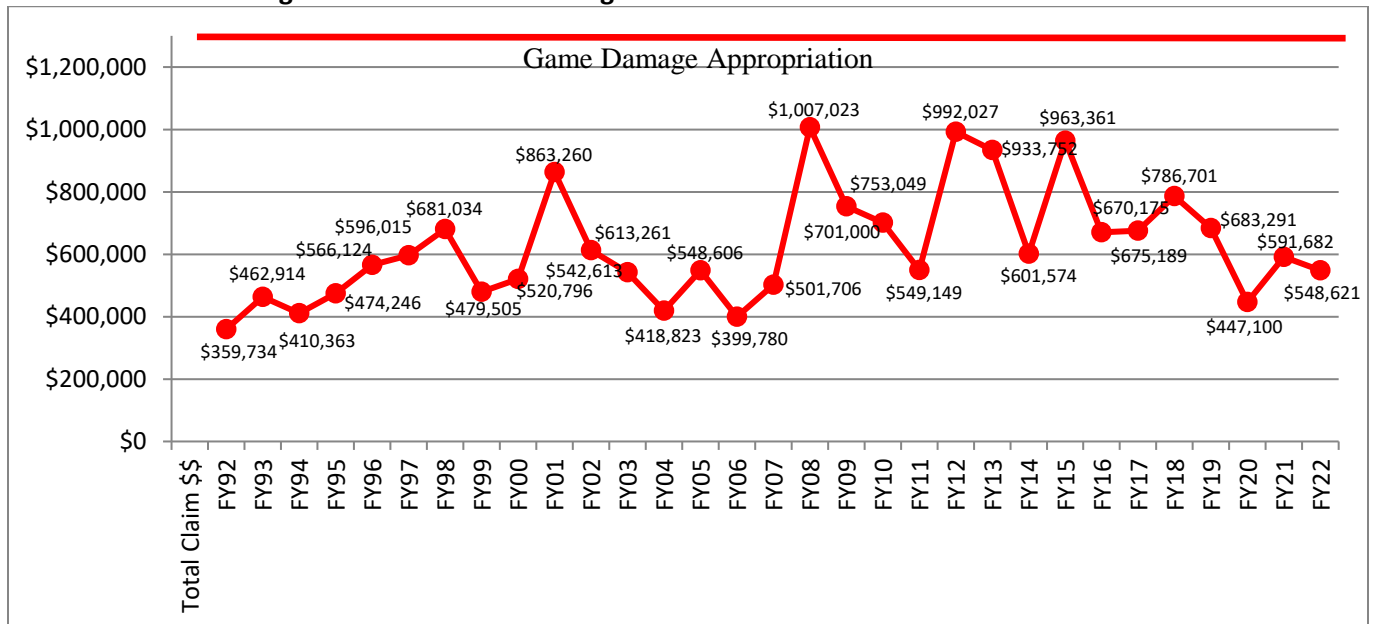
Annual Allocation for Claims & Prevention	\$1,282,500
FY22 Expenditures for Claims	\$ 548,621

Colorado’s big game damage program is authorized in Article 3 of Title 33 Colorado Revised Statutes. Since its original inception over 90 years ago, the program’s goal of mitigating and compensating agricultural producers for damage suffered by big game wildlife has changed very little. Over the years, the program has been refined most notably through the integration of a prevention materials program. The Game Damage program is entirely funded by license revenues through an annual appropriation from the Game Cash fund. The FY22 line item appropriation was \$1,282,500. This appropriation funds the two key program components; damage compensation and damage prevention materials. Resources are utilized among each program component based on annual needs.

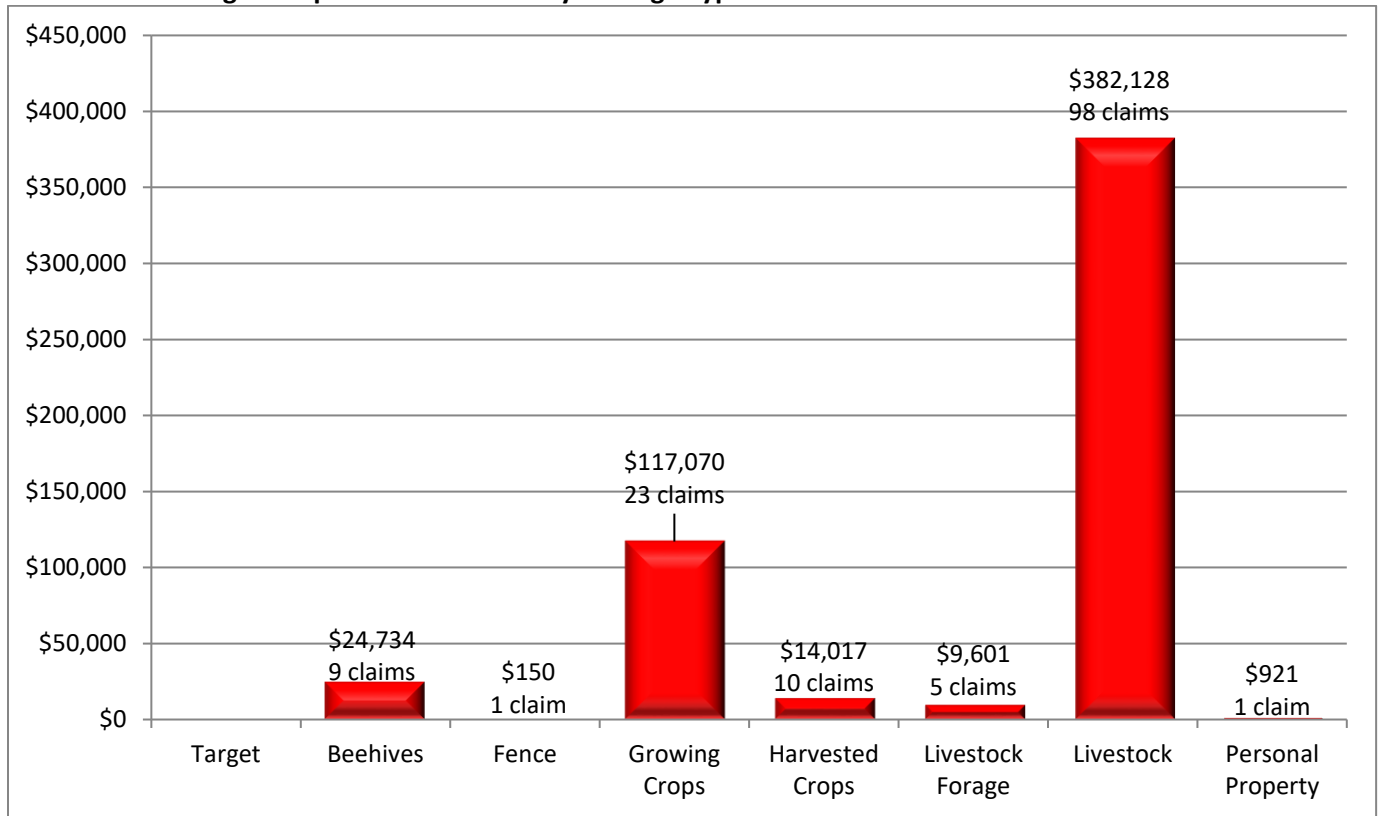
FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Overview

The compensation component of the game damage program provides reimbursement for qualifying agricultural claimants suffering eligible losses caused by big game wildlife. In FY22, compensation costs amounted to \$548,621 in settlement of 147 claims. These costs are \$88,172 below the past 5-year average of \$636,793 (FY17-FY21), 7.08% lower than the average. This decrease is attributed to fewer and lower costs of claims this year compared to FY17 through FY21. The total number of claims paid (n=147) in FY22 was below the past 5-year average of 219. CPW denied two claims (1.4% of all claims filed).

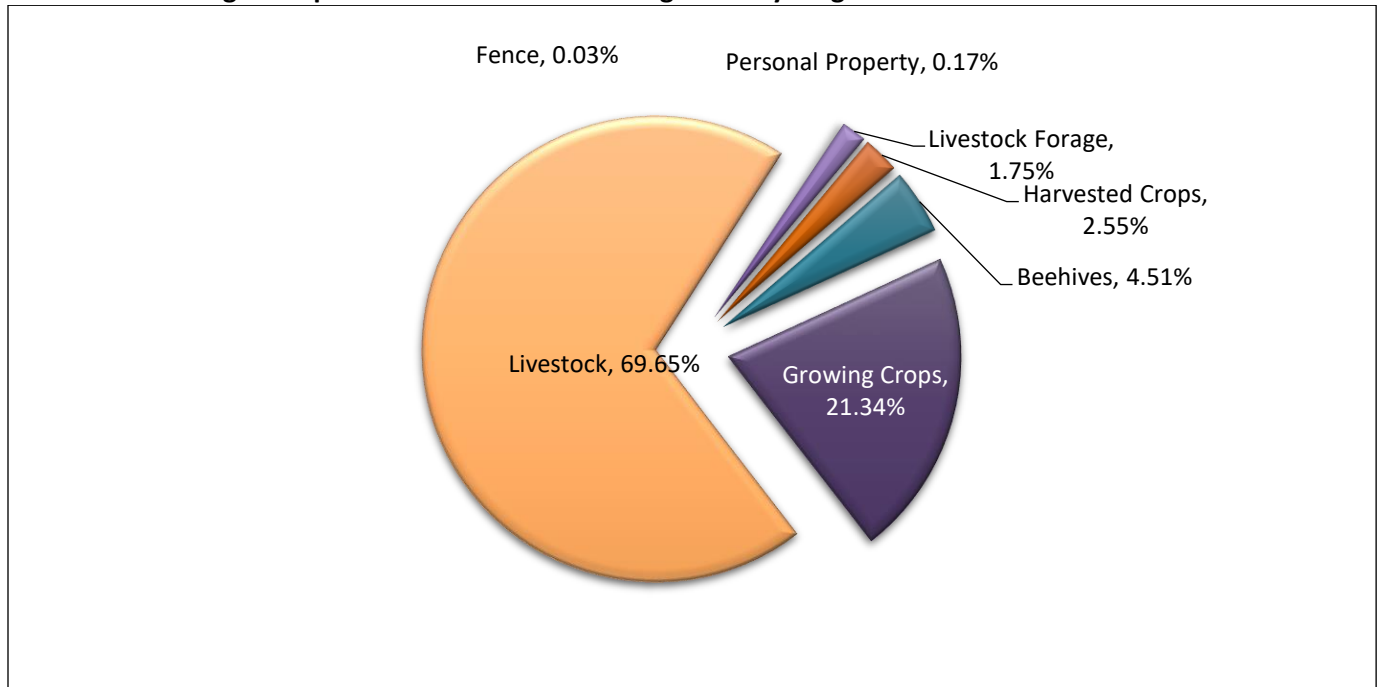
Historical Game Damage Claims from FY92 through FY22



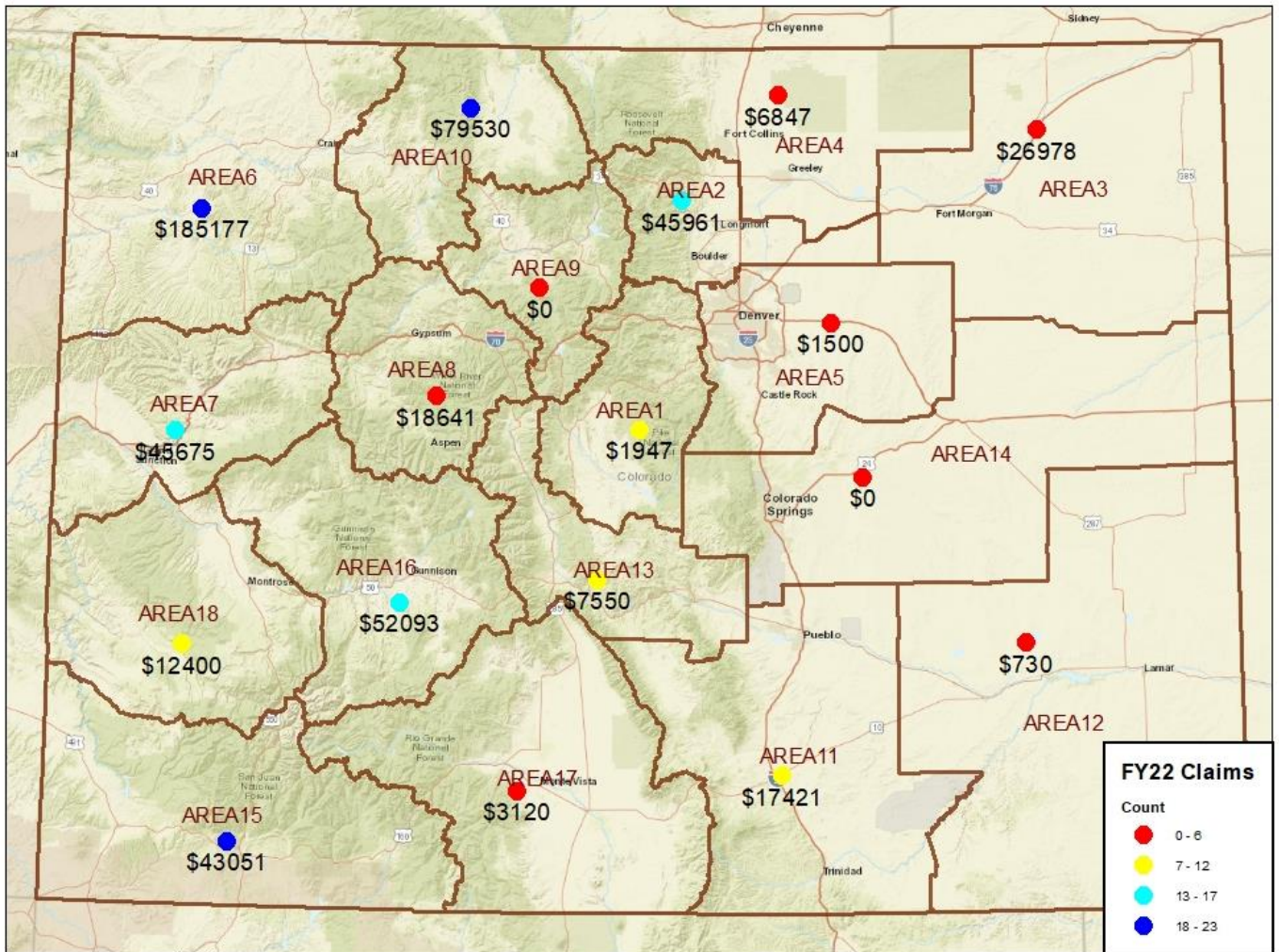
FY22 Game Damage Compensation - Claims by Damage Type



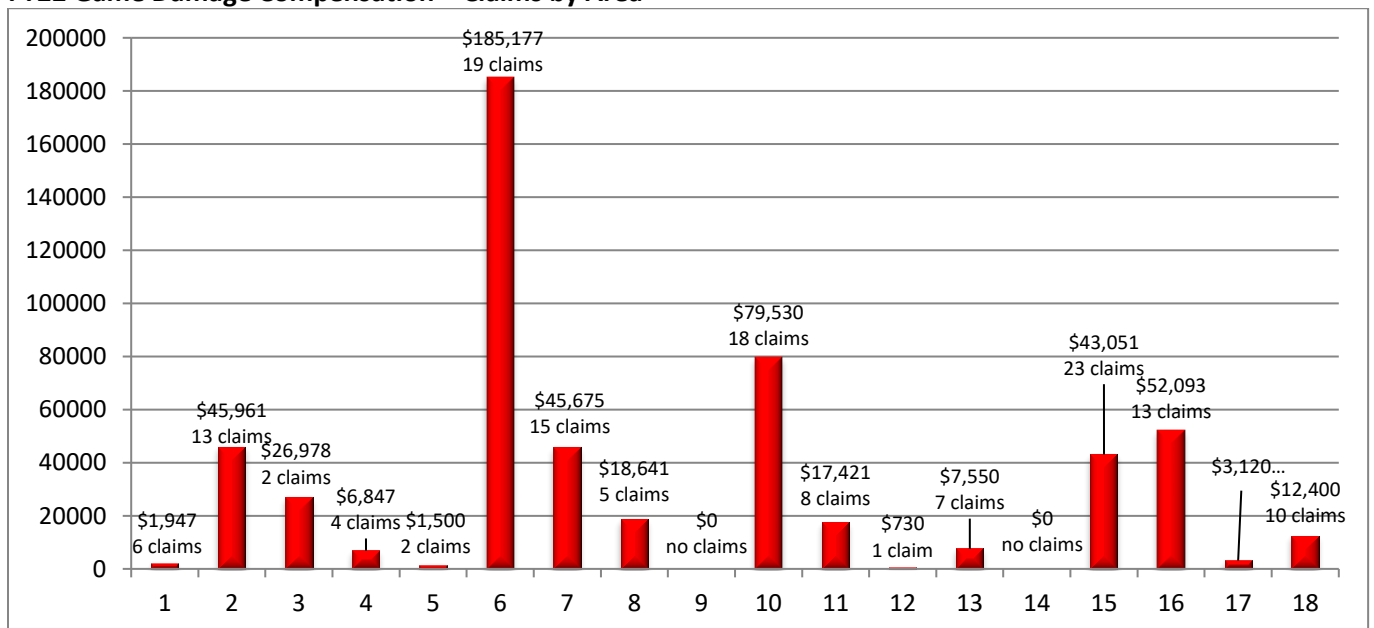
FY22 Game Damage Compensation - Percent of Damage Cost by Target



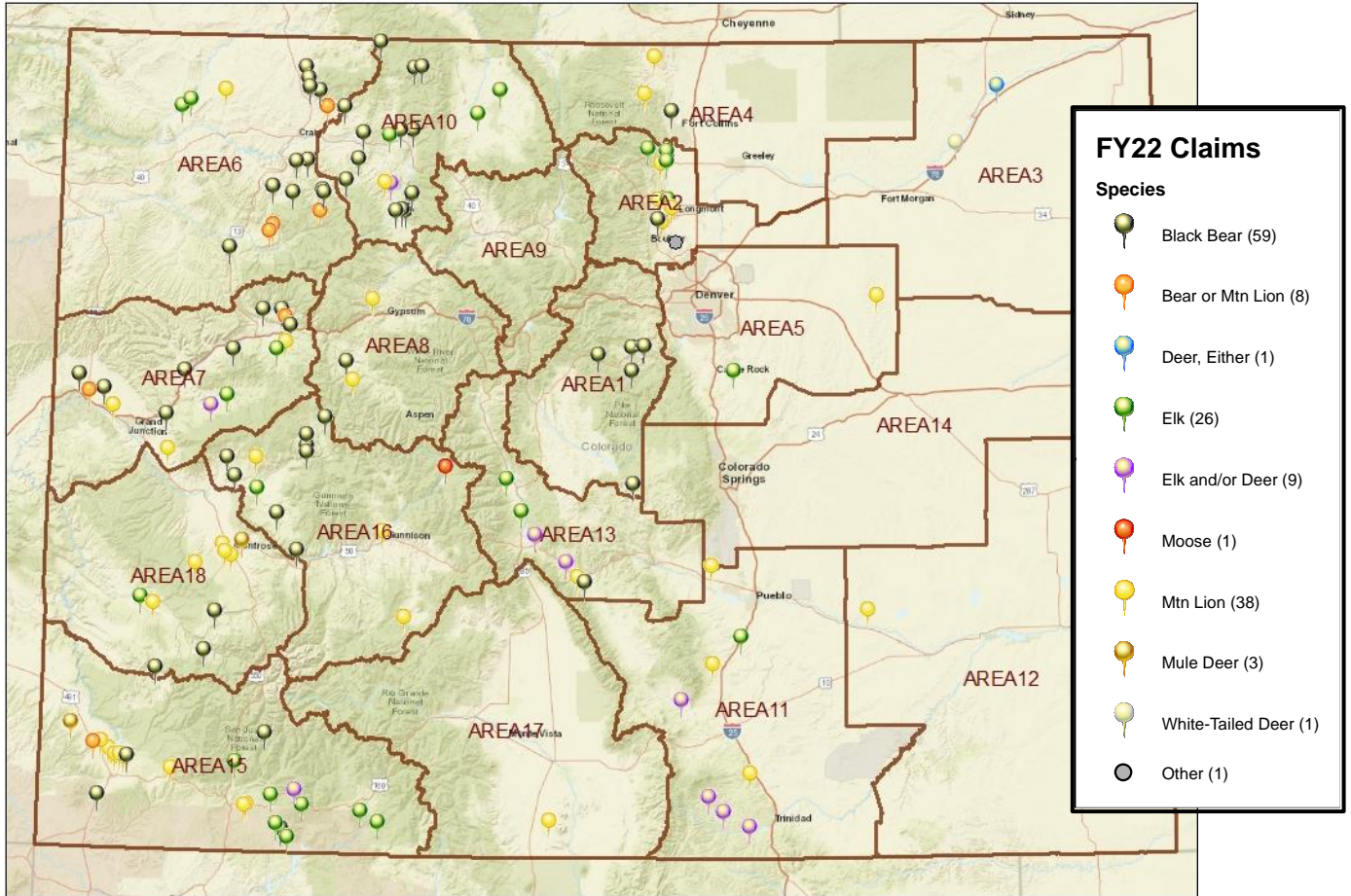
FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Geographic Summary by Area



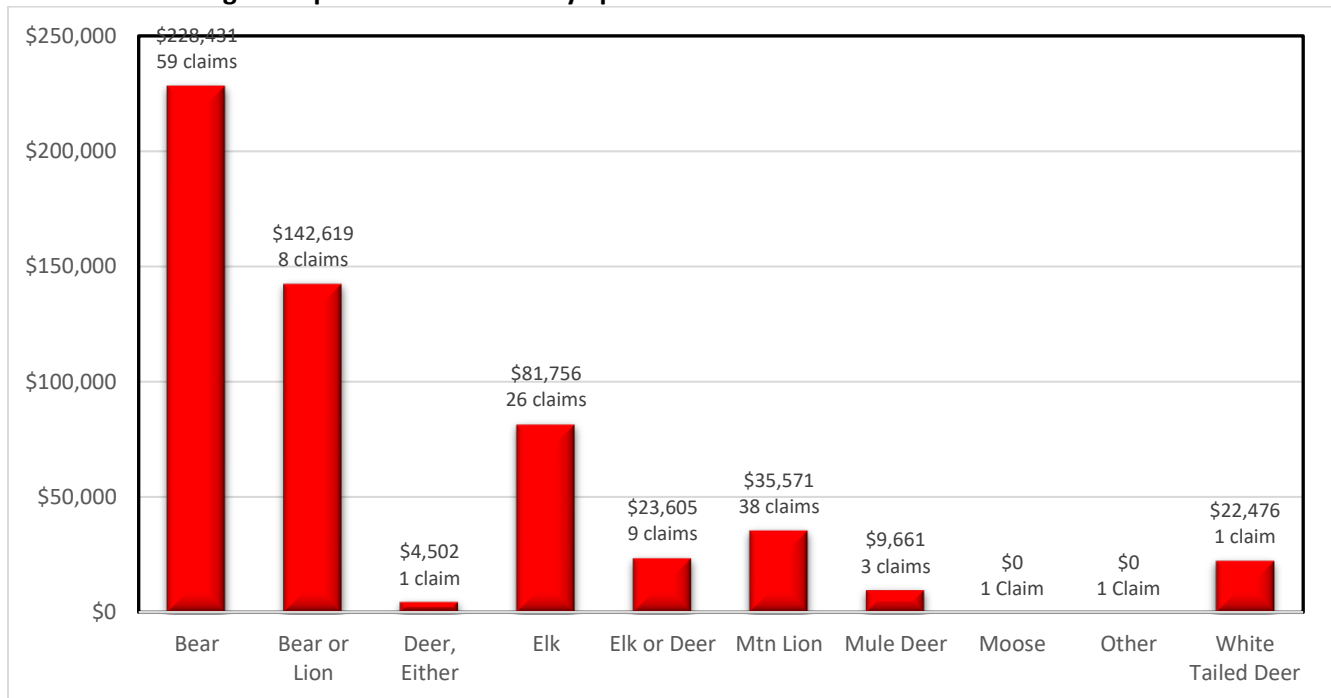
FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Claims by Area



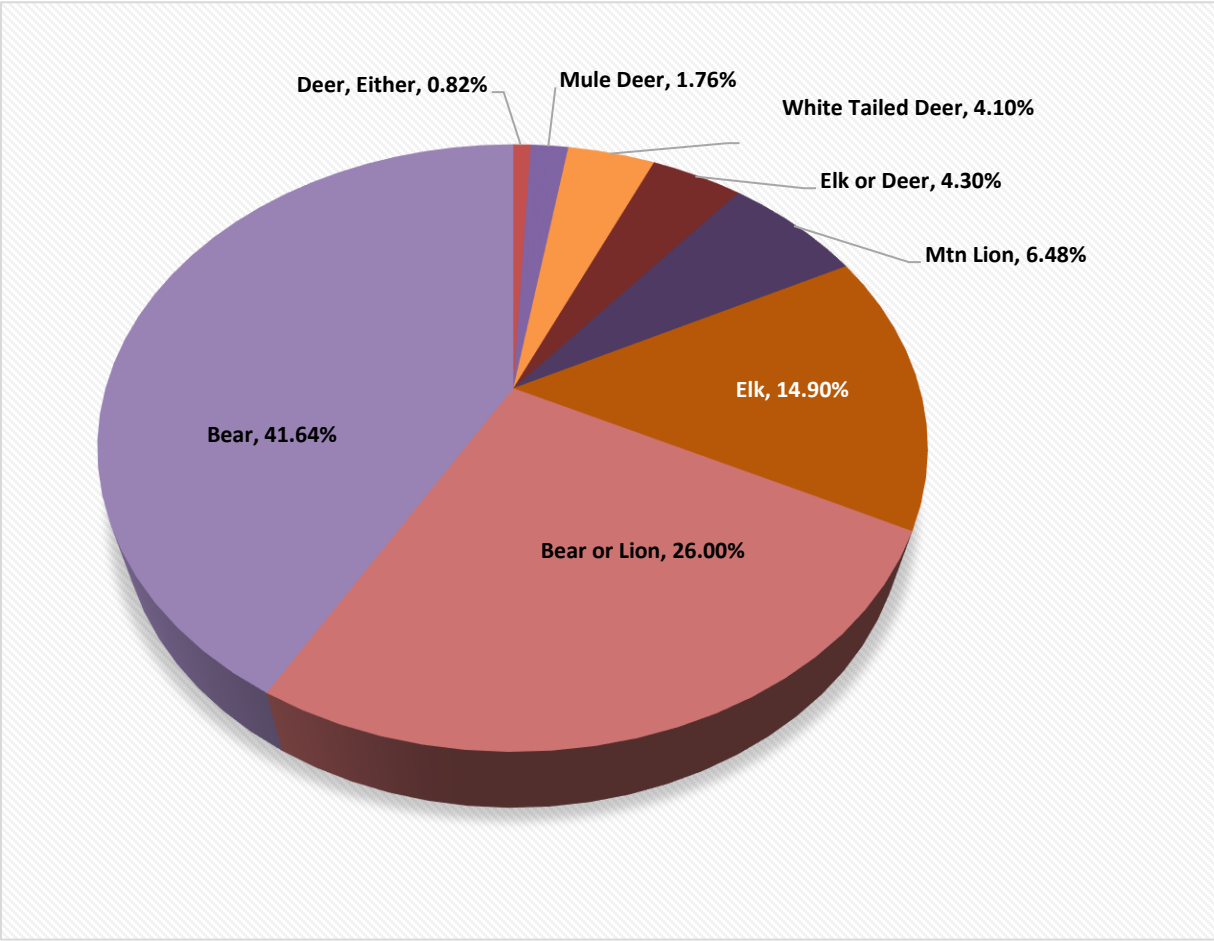
FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Geographic Summary of Species by Area



FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Claims by Species



FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Percent of Damage Cost by Species



FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Summary by Species by Target

Target	Claim Paid	Count	No. Claims	Target	Claim Paid	Count	No. Claims
Black Bear				Elk and/or Deer			
APIARIES				GROWING CROPS			
Beehives	\$24,734	84	9	Hay	\$22,641	77.52 ton	8
FENCE				LIVESTOCK FORAGE			
Fence	\$150	5000'	1	Forage	\$964	49 AUM	1
LIVESTOCK				Mountain Lion			
Alpaca	\$532	2	1	LIVESTOCK			
Cattle	\$10,052	12	10	Cattle	\$8,726	15	7
Elk	\$2,900	2	1	Goats	\$14,386	57	11
Goats	\$1,576	9	4	Poultry	\$2,972	45	2
Horse	\$3,000	1	1	Rabbit	\$359	8	1
Pigs	\$1,350	14	3	Sheep	\$9,128	36	17
Poultry	\$63	1	1	Moose			
Sheep	\$184,074	688	28	Horse	\$0	1	1
Bear and/or Mountain Lion				Other			
LIVESTOCK				Sheep			
Sheep	\$142,619	531	8	Sheep	\$0	2	1
Deer, Either				Mule Deer			
GROWING CROPS				GROWING CROPS			
Corn	\$4,502	760.43	1	Corn	\$4,527	748 bu	1
Elk				Hay	\$553	1.8 ton	1
GROWING CROPS				Sorghum	\$4,581	564 bu	1
Corn	\$25,960	4965 bu	1	White-Tailed Deer			
Hay	\$31,831	134 ton	9	GROWING CROPS			
HARVESTED CROPS				Corn	\$22,476	3442 bu	1
Hay	\$14,017		10				
LIVESTOCK FORAGE							
Hay Meadow	\$8,637		4				
LIVESTOCK							
Cattle	\$390	3	1				
PERSONAL PROPERTY							
Tarps	\$921	3000'	1				

FY22 Game Damage Compensation – Denials

Area	Damage Type	Claim Request	Basis for Denial
2	Sheep by Other	\$200.00	#1741(A) (1) – Tangible evidence that big game was present in the area. #1741(A)(2) - Claimant shall demonstrate that such animals were responsible for the damage, and in the case of livestock, the actual cause of injury/death.
16	Horse by Moose	\$25,000.00	#1740(A) – Claimant shall prove by preponderance of evidence that damage was caused by big game to the extent claimed. #1741(A) – Claimant shall demonstrate that big game was responsible for the damage. 33-3-104(1) – Damages to livestock shall be no more than five thousand dollars per head of livestock and the actual cause of injury or death.

Section B: Game Damage Prevention Materials

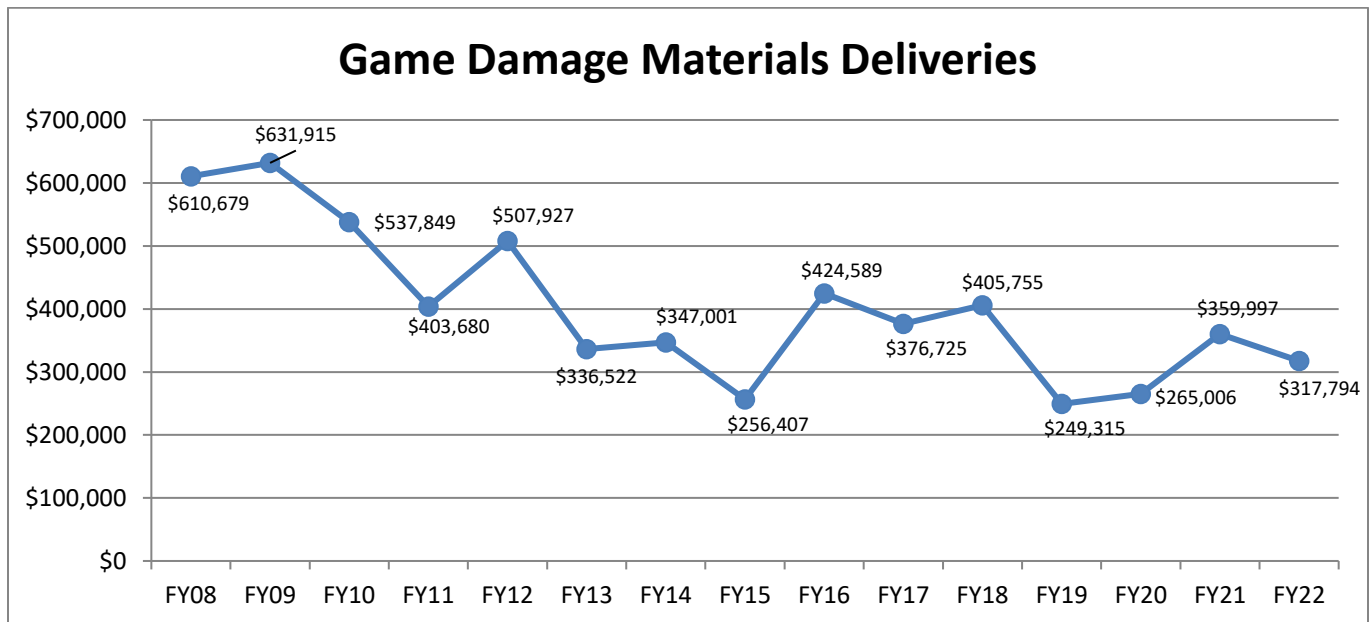
Annual Allocation for Claims & Prevention	\$1,282,500
FY22 Expenditures for Permanent Prevention Materials (includes Apiary Fencing Materials)	\$ 225,969
FY22 Expenditures for All Other Temporary Prevention Materials	\$ 91,825
TOTAL FY22 Expenditures for Permanent and Temporary Prevention Materials	\$ 317,794

The damage prevention materials program became an integrated component of the Game Damage Program in 1996, over a quarter century ago. The prevention materials component provides both permanent and temporary materials to landowners in order to eliminate or minimize damage caused by big game wildlife. The largest expenditure for material requests consist of stackyards, nurseries, orchards and apiary fencing.

FY22 Game Damage Materials – Overview

Total expenditures for damage prevention materials (\$317,794) in FY22 decreased by 3.59% compared to the past 5-year average (\$331,360), and the number of deliveries (n=209) decreased by 3.51% from the past 5-year average (n=216.6). Stackyard requests (n=24) were below the past 5-year average by 46.43% (n=44.8). Orchard requests have fallen off and decreased by 43.82% (n=10) compared to the past 5-year average of 17.8. Apiary fence requests (n=117) were again slightly below the past 5-year average by 1.35% (n=118.6).

FY22 Game Damage Materials – Multi-Year Overview



FY22 Game Damage Materials – Summary

The Game Damage Program filled 209 requests for Prevention Materials throughout the state.

Over 31.81 miles of permanent fencing were delivered. Game Damage delivered 33 apiary fences, while an additional 84 requests were filled from caches located at Area offices. Deliveries required traveling more than 55,273 miles. The mileage increased over 2,600 miles this year, even though the delivery requests decreased 7.11%.

Game Damage delivered to Area offices a supply of pyrotechnics and 8' x 8' wood elk panels in order to provide landowners with temporary prevention materials more efficiently.

The Habitat Partnership Program (HPP) requested materials for cooperative habitat or fencing projects with landowners. Game Damage delivered **\$86,837** worth of materials for 17 HPP projects, which was reimbursed to the Game Damage Program.

Area offices requested nuisance bear deterrent materials. Game Damage provided the deterrents, worth **\$4,859** in FY22, which were reimbursed by the Areas. Fencing materials were also provided to State Wildlife Areas at a cost of **\$29,778** for 9 projects, which were reimbursed to Game Damage.

Facility Type	Number of Deliveries	FY22
Apiary	117	\$38,643
Commercial Garden	7	\$24,251
Nursery	4	\$31,849
Orchard	10	\$63,653
Stackyard	24	\$45,007
Vineyard	2	\$16,835
Unique Fencing	1	\$5,732
PERMANENT MATERIALS & APIARY FENCES		
Total	165 deliveries	\$225,969
TEMPORARY MATERIALS for distribution by area offices		
Pyrotechnics	25	\$40,291
Wood Elk Panels (1,714 Panels)	19	\$51,534
	209	\$317,794

DELIVERY TIME SPANS

Effective July 1, 2009: Senate Bill 09-024 required delivery within 15 business days for temporary materials or 45 days for permanent materials from initial request.

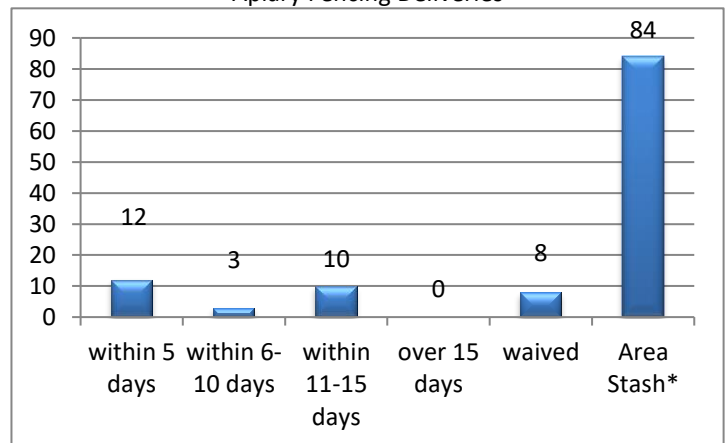
Apiary fencing requests were delivered on time, as mandated in statute (n=117). Eight (8) apiarists requested delivery on a date later than 15 business days, using the Delivery Deadline Waiver form. The Area Stashes deliver the majority of the temporary electric fences (n=84), 72% of all apiary fences.

* - Deliveries from Apiary Stashes were filled on the same day as the landowner requests.

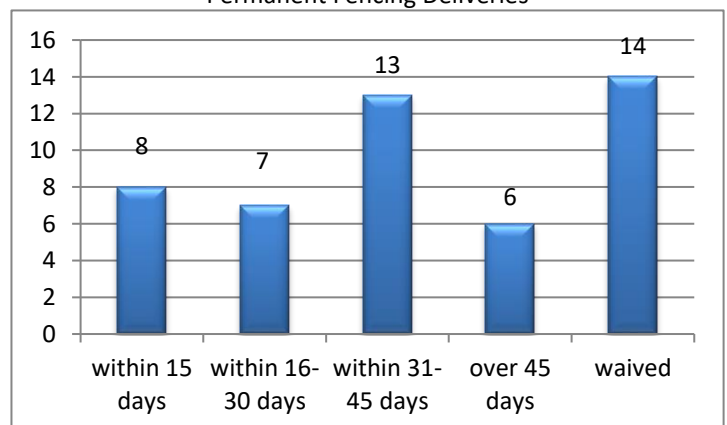
Most deliveries for permanent game damage materials (n=48) were made within the 45 day limit or the deadline date was waived by the landowner.

- Six (6) requests were delivered after the 45-day deadline, due to changes in staff during busy delivery season.
- Fourteen (14) landowners requested the delivery date past 45 days via waiver.

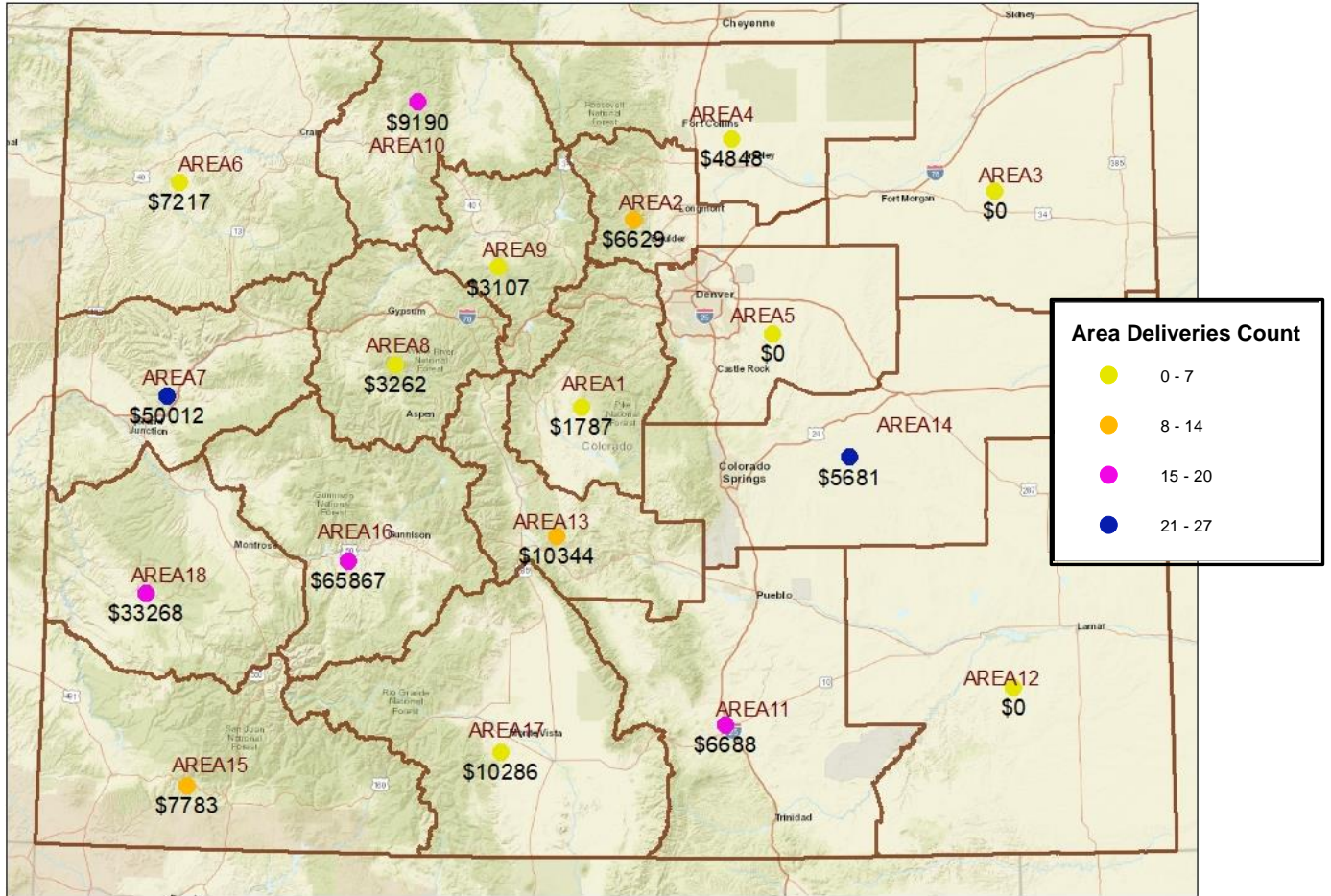
Apiary Fencing Deliveries



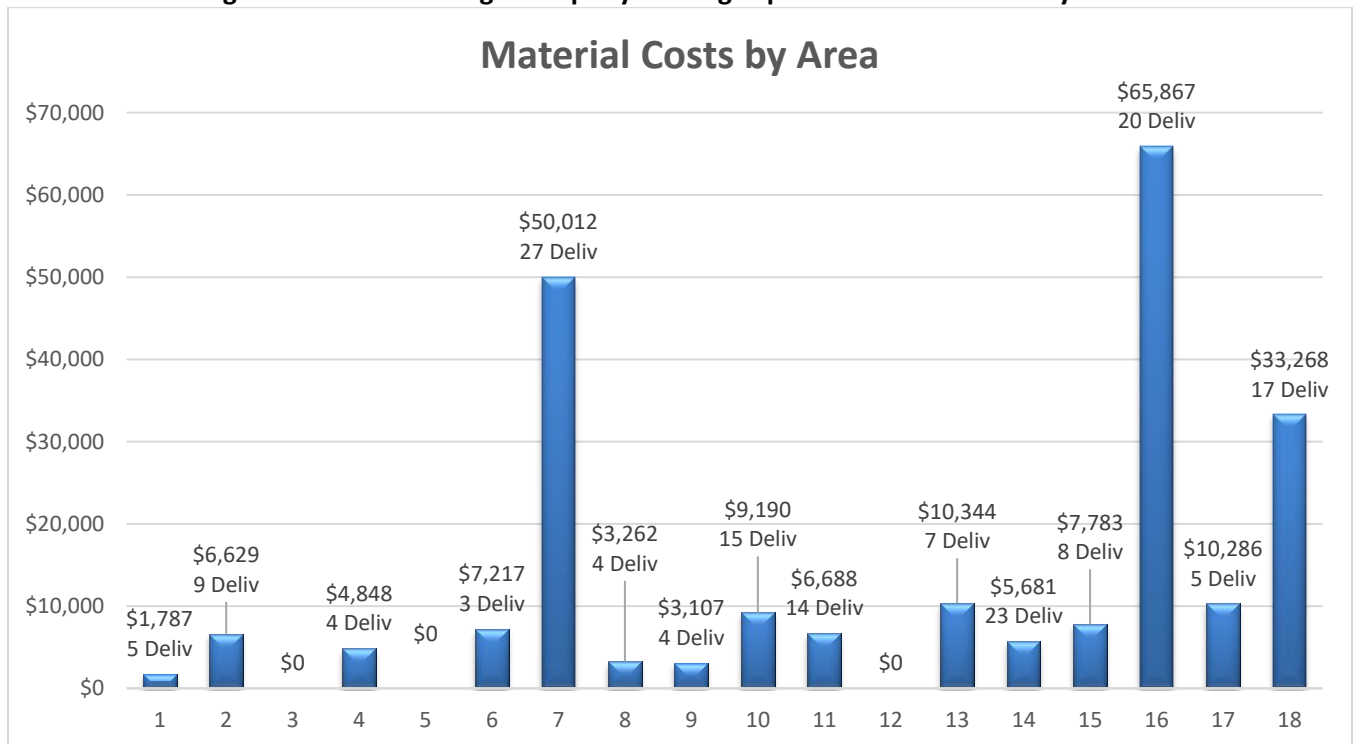
Permanent Fencing Deliveries



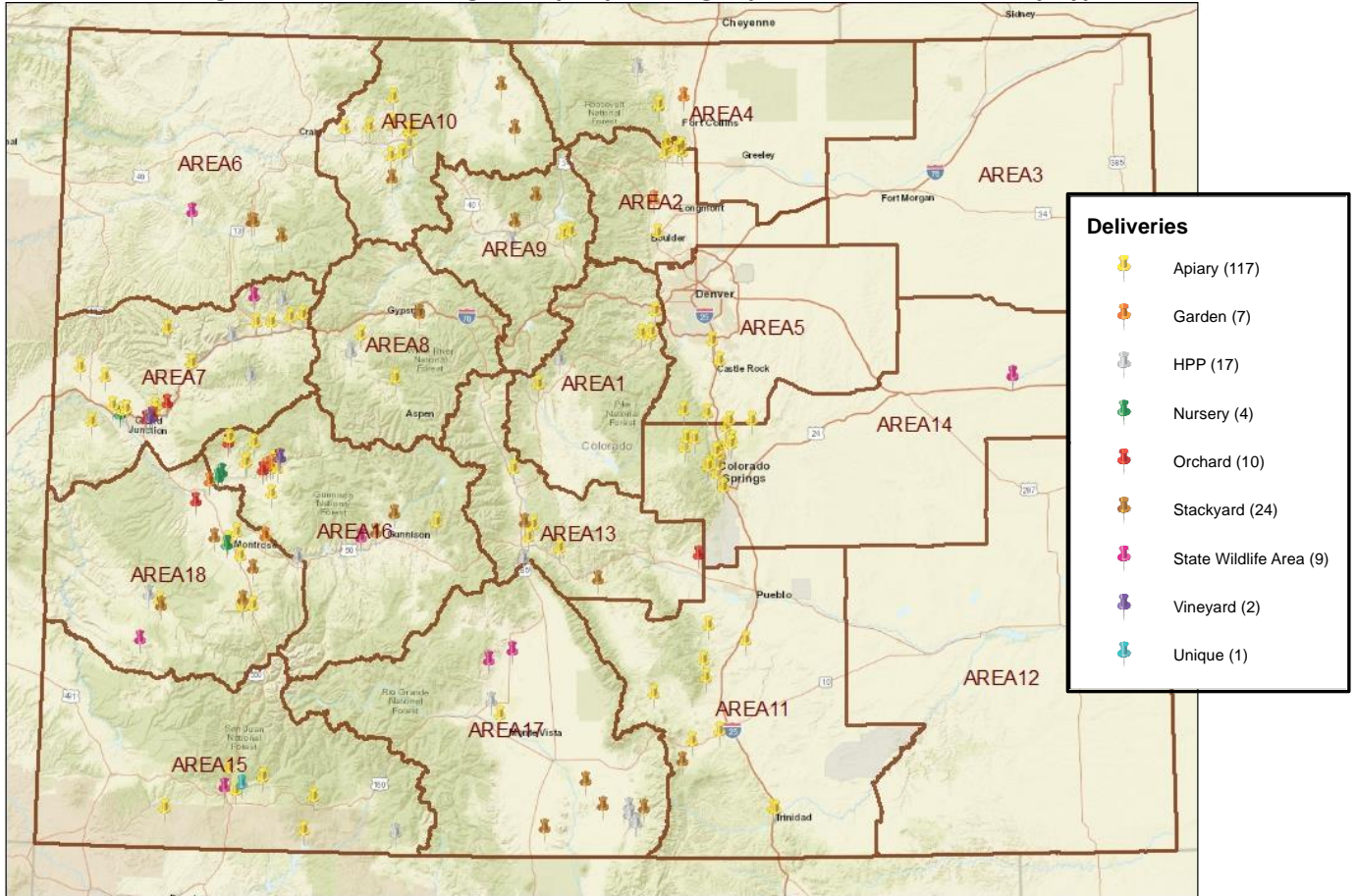
FY22 Game Damage Permanent Fencing and Apiary Fencing – Geographic Distribution (\$225,969)



FY22 Game Damage Permanent Fencing and Apiary Fencing Expenditure – Deliveries by Area



FY22 Game Damage Permanent Fencing and Apiary Fencing Expenditure – Deliveries by Type



Section C: Permits Issued to Take Wildlife Pursuant to C.R.S. 33-3-106:

CPW issued 29 permits during Fiscal Year 2022 to kill specified numbers of wildlife causing excessive damage to property by request of the property owner. Seven animals were harvested: one elk and six white-tailed deer.

Area	No. Permits	Number and species
1	0	
3	0	
5	0	
6	0	
7	0	
8	0	
10	3	1 elk
11	5	
12	0	
13	0	
14	21	6 whitetail deer
15	0	
16	0	
17	0	
18	0	
TOTAL	29	7

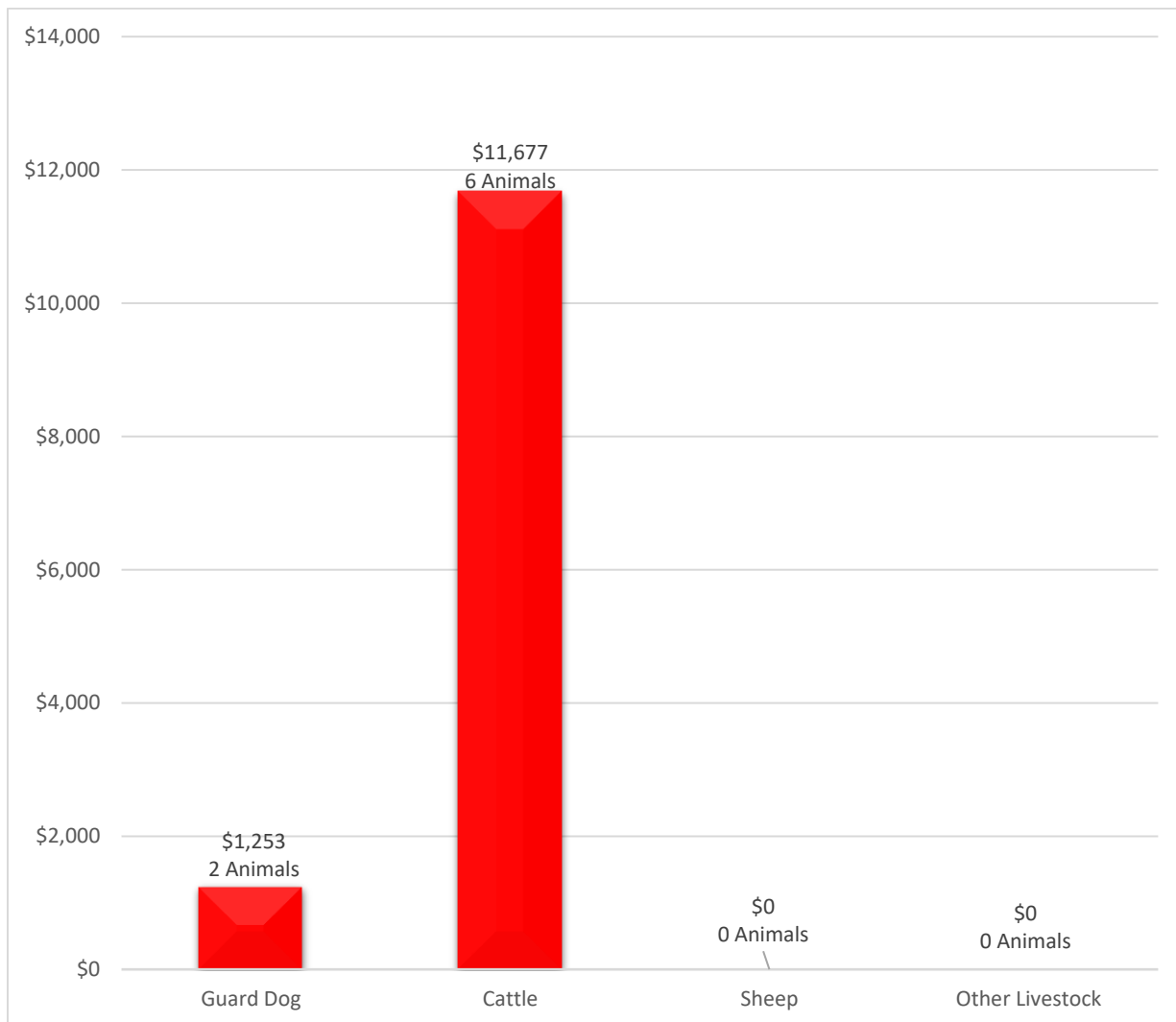
WOLF DAMAGE COMPENSATION AND CONFLICT MINIMIZATION

Wolf damage compensation and conflict minimization expenditures are not a requirement of C.R.S. 33-3-111 or C.R.S. 33-2-105.8, however, this data is being provided for informational purposes.

Section A: Wolf Compensation

Annual Allocation for Claims & Conflict Minimization	\$50,000
FY22 Expenditures for Claims	\$12,929.75

Compensation to livestock owners for losses caused by gray wolves is authorized in C.R.S. 33-2-105.8(2)(e)(II). Funding for wolf-livestock damage compensation is appropriated from the general assembly from sources other than the sales of hunting or fishing license revenues. The FY22 line item appropriation was \$50,000. This appropriation funds wolf-livestock damage compensation and wolf-livestock conflict minimization materials. In FY22, compensation costs amounted to \$12,929.75 in settlement of four wolf damage claims.



Section B: Wolf Conflict Minimization

Annual Allocation for Claims & Conflict Minimization	\$50,000
FY22 Expenditures for Conflict Minimization Materials	\$24,361.52

Assisting livestock owners in preventing and resolving wolf-livestock conflicts is authorized in C.R.S. 33-2-105.8(2)(e)(I). Funding to minimize wolf-livestock conflicts is appropriated from the general assembly from sources other than the sales of hunting or fishing license revenues. Conflict minimization materials provided to livestock owners include turbo fladry, shell-crackers and fox lights. Conflict minimization materials purchased to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts in FY22 totaled \$24,361.52. This included 5 miles of turbo fladry (electrified poly-wire with flagging), turbo fladry components (posts, ground rods, and solar chargers), 60 fox lights, and pyrotechnics (shell-crackers).

Material Type	FY22
<i>Turbo Fladry</i>	<i>\$15,631.00</i>
<i>Fox Lights</i>	<i>\$4,217.00</i>
<i>Fladry Components</i>	<i>\$3,773.52</i>
<i>Shellcrackers</i>	<i>\$740.00</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$24,361.52</i>